

## 4- Row your boat

"**Row, Row, Row Your Boat**" is an English language **nursery rhyme** and a popular children's song, often sung as a **round**. It can also be an "action" nursery rhyme, whose singers sit opposite one another and "row" forwards and backwards with joined hands.

It has been suggested that the song may have originally arisen out of American minstrelsy. The **minstrel show**, or **minstrelsy**, was an American form of entertainment developed in the 19th century that required payment to attend. Each show consisted of comic skits, variety acts, dancing, and music, performed by white people in make-up or blackface for the purpose of playing the role of black people.

People often add **additional verses** to the song, a form of children's street culture, with the intent of either extending the song or (especially in the case of more irreverent versions) to make it funny, parody it, or substitute another sensibility for the perceived innocent one of the original. Versions include:

Row, row, row your boat,  
Gently down the stream.  
If you see a crocodile,  
Don't forget to scream

Row, row, row your boat,  
Gently down the stream.  
Throw your teacher overboard  
And listen to her scream.

**Youtube: *Row your boat* and other nursery rhymes (medley) – Ella Fitzgerald and Bing Crosby**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iJXx-Bi8g\\_w](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iJXx-Bi8g_w)

| Original y traducción libre al español                                                                             |                                                                                                                     |
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| Versos originales en inglés                                                                                        | Traducción al español                                                                                               |
| Row, row, row your boat,<br>Gently down the stream.<br>Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily,<br>Life is but a dream. | Rema, rema, rema tu barco<br>Suavemente corriente abajo<br>Feliz, Feliz, Feliz, Feliz,<br>La vida es sólo un sueño. |